

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A flexible conduit limb for a breathing circuit comprising:
including,

5 an inlet,

an outlet,

an enclosing wall defining a flexible gases passageway between said inlet and said outlet,
at least a region of said enclosing wall being of a material that allows the passage of water vapour
without allowing the passage of liquid water or respiratory gases through said wall, and

10 a heating means located within said conduit limb, said heating means comprising an
elongate heating element, wherein

said flexible conduit is of a type suitable for conveying breathing gases to or from a
patient.

15 2. (Currently Amended) A flexible conduit limb as claimed in claim 1, wherein said conduit
limb is an expiratory limb and said heating means is located in an expiratory flow path of said
expiratory limb.

3. (Currently Amended) A flexible conduit limb as claimed in claim 1, wherein said heating
20 means lies freely in said conduit limb to settle over at least some of its length at low points in
said conduit limb where condensed water vapour may collect.

4. (Currently Amended) A flexible conduit limb as claimed in claim 2, wherein said heating means lies freely in said conduit limb to settle over at least some of its length at low points in said conduit limb where condensed water vapour may collect.

5. (Currently Amended) A flexible conduit limb as claimed in claim 1, wherein said breathing circuit is a coaxial breathing circuit including,

an inner conduit, having said inlet, said outlet and said enclosing wall,

an outer conduit, having a second inlet and a second outlet,

said inner conduit located within said outer conduit,

said inlet of said inner conduit and said second outlet of said outer conduit being located at a first end of said conduit limb, and

said outlet of said inner conduit and said second inlet of said outer conduit being located at a second end of said conduit limb, and

said heating means is located in a space between said inner conduit and said outer conduit.

6. (Currently Amended) A flexible conduit limb as claimed in claim 3, wherein said breathing circuit is a coaxial breathing circuit including,

an inner conduit, having said inlet, said outlet and said enclosing wall,

an outer conduit, having a second inlet and a second outlet,

said inner conduit located within said outer conduit,

said inlet of said inner conduit and said second outlet of said outer conduit being located

at a first end of said conduit limb, and

said outlet of said inner conduit and said second inlet of said outer conduit being located

at a second end of said conduit limb, and

said heating means is located in a space between said inner conduit and said outer

conduit.

7. (Currently Amended) A flexible conduit limb as claimed in claim 1, wherein said conduit limb includes at least one helically wound polymer tape or strip, part or all of said strip being of a material that allows the passage of water vapour without allowing the passage of liquid water or respiratory gases, respective edges of adjacent turns of said strip being adjoining or overlapping and bonded.

8. (Currently Amended) A flexible conduit limb as claimed in claim 5, wherein said conduit limb includes at least one helically wound polymer tape or strip, part or all of said tape or strip being of a material that allows the passage of water vapour without allowing the passage of liquid water or respiratory gases, respective edges of adjacent turns of said strip being adjoining or overlapping and bonded.

9. (Currently Amended) A flexible conduit limb as claimed in claim 7, including lateral reinforcement against crushing wherein said lateral reinforcement is a helical bead disposed over said adjoining or overlapping edges between turns of strip.

10. (Currently Amended) A flexible conduit limb as claimed in claim 8, including lateral reinforcement against crushing wherein said lateral reinforcement is a helical bead disposed over said adjoining or overlapping edges between turns of strip.